

## Minutes

Village of Alanson

7631 US 31 North, Alanson, MI 49706

Regular Council Meeting of March 14th, 2022.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Village President Greg Babcock at 6pm.

**Council Present:** Trustee Mark Fairbairn, Trustee Doug Larson, Trustee Josh Larson, Trustee David Stepanovich. President Greg Babcock.

**Council Absent:** N/A

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Murphy, Glen Pemberton, Craig Wilson

**Approval of Agenda:** *Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to approve the agenda as written for the regular council meeting of March 14th, 2022. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

**Approval of Minutes:** *Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to approve the minutes as written for the regular council meeting of February 14th, 2022. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0

**Public Comment:**

**Visitor Presentation:**

**A. Doug Houseworth- Sanctuary Island Storyboard:**

Not Present

**B. Angela Papi - Food truck**

Resident Angela Papi reported to the council that she plans to have a food truck offering breakfast & lunch operating by Spring. She's considering having it located across from the Subway restaurant. She would like to bring the food truck to the park to help promote events. Trustee Doug Larson commented there currently isn't an ordinance against having food trucks. President Babcock mentioned she would need a license. Discussion ensued. Babcock said that he would "not be opposed to allowing food trucks in the village". Babcock suggested the Village create a food truck ordinance listing the fees, locations they can operate and hours of operation. Babcock commented they will have an ordinance prepared by April's meeting and to go to the Village Clerk's office to apply for a permit.

**New Business:**

**A. President Pro Tempore:**

Trustee Larson mentioned that we need to have a policy in place to give authority to someone who will run the meeting should the Village President not be able to attend. Trustee Dave Stepanovich clarified that there would not be a change in pay for the Trustee nominated to run the meetings. Trustee Doug Larson confirmed. Trustee Dave Stepanovich nominated Trustee Doug Larson as President Protempore. Trustee Doug Larson accepted the nomination. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**B. Approval of New DDA Members: Angela Papi, Nicole Weller, James Weller:**

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve Angela Papi to the DDA Board. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve Nicole Weller to the DDA Board. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

*Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to approve James Weller to the DDA Board. Seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**C: Samantha Fairbairn - Sign W. W. Fairbairn:**

Fairbairn approached the council explaining that W. W. Fairbairn Hardware & Sons would like to update their sign on the west side of US 31 next to their parking lot. Fairbairn gave a handout showing the rough layout. Fairbairn would like a sign similar to the school's sign on the corner of US 31 and M-68. Fairbairn would like the sign to be lit and to advertise on it. Fairbairn stated that W. W. Fairbairn & Sons would be willing to continue advertising for the museum. Fairbairn mentioned they would do some landscaping around the sign.

Trustee Stepanovich advised that there is a sign ordinance in place and that the school and church had to get a variance to install their signs. Stepanovich told Fairbairn that she would need to go before the zoning board with her request. Babcock commented that MDOT has specific regulations for signs along the highway as well. Babcock suggested Fairbairn contact MDOT to see what restrictions they have.

**D. Brian Drayton- Auto Show:**

The 30<sup>th</sup> annual car show is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 11, 2022 . The Fire Dept. is asking to shut down River Street from US-31 to Cheboygan Street, adjacent West Street to Warren Street, from 6am to 4pm and will manage all signage. Drayton also asked President Babcock if he would be willing to do a Mayor's Choice Trophy. President Greg Babcock agreed to present Mayor's Choice. Drayton also mentioned that they will look into an alternative location for 2023 during the street closure due to MDot construction.

*Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to shut down River Street from 6am-4pm on September 11, 2022, for the car show. Seconded by Trustee Mark Fairbairn. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

**Old Business:**

#### **A. Mark Fairbairn Street Abandonment Resolution:**

President Babcock informed the council that the Village Attorney has written up 3 different resolutions to abandon the alleyways for the council to choose from. Discussion ensued. Trustee Dave Stepanovich mentioned that he was in favor of abandoning all alleys.

*Motion* by Trustee Dave Stepanovich to accept Resolution #1 abandoning all alleys. Seconded by Trustee Doug Larson. Roll call vote: Doug Larson –Y, Josh Larson –Y, Stepanovich –Y, Babcock –Y. All votes in favor. Motion carried 4/0.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Mark Fairbairn:** N/A

**Trustee Josh Larson-** N/A

**Trustee Doug Larson-**Reported that they are finishing up the grant application to remodel the park bathroom. The grant amount is \$18,000. The grant funds will also go towards a new fountain at Memorial Park (\$3,500) and possibly towards installing a bike repair station (\$2,000). The quote to remodel the bathroom is \$12,000. The Village contribution amount is \$2,000.

Trustee Larson also mentioned we should have a discussion on how to use the American Rescue Plan funds. Larson suggested we not use all the funds towards the streetscape project, but to use some of the funds towards greenspace projects such as a volleyball court, new playground structures etc. Larson mentioned it would be a good idea to make the parks ADA compliant by putting sidewalks in.

**Trustee David Stepanovich-** N/A

**Clerk- Treasurer Jennifer Murphy-** See attached Clerk/Treasurer Report.

*Motion* by President Greg Babcock to transfer the amount we budgeted for the equipment rental. Seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion Carried. 5/0.

Murphy asked the council if they wanted to get the bridge tender position advertised. Babcock confirmed to place the advertisement. Babcock also advised that the contract needed to be reviewed. Pemberton requested a conversation with the new Bridge Tender regarding cleanliness of the booth area.

**DPW/Zoning/ Street Commissioner-** Pemberton reported that the DPW building has been having furnace issues. They have had W. W. Fairbairn Hardware & Sons write up a quote for a new system. Pemberton suggested having a different type of heating system installed and to possibly install 6 double pane windows to make the building more airtight approximate cost \$1,200.

Pemberton reported that several of the banners are getting old and damaged. He would like to work

with the school and area businesses to design and purchase new banners. President Babcock suggested with the upcoming MDOT project to hold off buying any new banners until we know what lampposts will be installed and to consult the DDA as they have bought the banners in the past. Pemberton to also work with the DDA on flowers.

Pemberton also mentioned the toad play structure in the park needs some work. Pemberton suggested to have it inspected.

Pemberton informed the council that someone had backed into the ramp at the boathouse at Sanctuary Island. Babcock advised that a police report needs to be filed.

**Ordinance Enforcement-** Pemberton reported that he is waiting on the ticket book to arrive. President Greg Babcock advised that they will need to find a new vendor for the ticket book due to the volume required to purchase. Further, Pemberton requested guidance from the council on enforcement.

**Zoning-** Pemberton mentioned he has sent out a few variance applications lately to residents.

**Deputy Clerk Craig Wilson-** Mentioned to the council that the Antique Boat group is still asking for the boat slips at Memorial Park to be reserved for them. President Greg Babcock mentioned that he would call them to let them know the Village cannot reserve those slips.

**President Greg Babcock-** Reported that he had attended the Sewer authority meeting. The Authority will need to make a line repair along Hathaway Rd. They are estimating the cost of repairs to be \$539,508. The Village portion of the repair cost would be \$64,749.60. Some members of the Authority are looking to use the ARPA funds towards the repair costs.

Babcock mentioned that he had heard from Fleis & Vandenbrink and they are submitting the grant application for the streetscape. Babcock also mentioned he had heard from MDOT. MDOT is asking the village if we wanted Milton Rd. to be just resurfaced or have improvements done? Trustee Larson inquired if we could put in a dedicated bike lane along Milton Rd from Powers Rd to Chicago St. Discussion ensued. Trustee Stepanovich asked if MDOT plans any parking changes? Babcock responded that he did not believe so. Babcock commented that the streetscape plan is looking to install new lampposts, benches, and to plant trees along US 31 and River St. MDot was to have a design meeting on 3-15-22 with drawings submitted by 7-28-22.

Babcock reported that the Emmet County DPW will be doing the recycling audit/survey within the next two weeks to gather information for the April meeting.

**Monthly Bills:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to pay the current monthly Bills. Seconded by Trustee Josh Larson. All votes in favor. Motion carried. 5/0.

**Public Comment:** Parker Fairbairn introduced himself and informed the council that he is running for the 107<sup>th</sup> District State Representative seat. He encouraged attendees to ask him questions after the meeting.

**Adjournment:** *Motion* by Trustee Doug Larson to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Trustee Dave Stepanovich. All votes in favor. Motion carried 5/0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.